

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CURACA 00280 181842Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11
NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 DOTE-00 AID-05 L-03 /075 W
-----062977 181851Z /72

R 171910Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CURACAO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3044
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
COAST GUARD WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L CURACAO 0280

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, NA

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSISTANCE TO NAG

REF: STATE 092956

1. DRUGS ARE PERCEIVED HERE TO BE A MAJOR AND GROWING PROBLEM. THE LEGISLATURE RECENTLY UNANIMOUSLY RAISED THE PENALTIES FOR TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS, INCLUDING MARIJUANA, FROM FOUR TO TEN YEARS. I DO NOT BELIEVE NAG COOPERATION WITH US AUTHORITIES ON DRUG MATTERS IS DEPENDENT IN OUR PROVIDING GOODIES. NAG COOPERATES ON SUCH MATTERS IN RESPONSE TO ITS OWN PERCEPTIONS. SITUATION WOULD PROBABLY BE NOT MUCH DIFFERENT UNDER ANY OTHER FORESEEABLE POLITICAL ALIGNMENT OR ANY OTHER MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

2. CHANCE IS A LIFE-LONG POLITICIAN. OF COURSE HIS MOTIVATIONS RE THE BOATS ARE POLITICAL. (WHAT POLITICIAN'S AREN'T?) THEY MAY EVEN BE AS ZAANDAM SAYS. WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER THE USG WOULD SEE SUPPLYING THE BOATS OR GIVING ANY OTHER ASSISTANCE AS DOLLAR-COST EFFECTIVE IN COMBATTING US-DESTINED ILLICIT NARCOTIC TRAFFIC.

3. AS TO EFFECTIVE USE WITH WHICH NAG MIGHT USE ANY ASSISTANCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CURACA 00280 181842Z

THAT WE PROVIDE, I WOULD SAY THIS. WE HAVE GIVEN A LOT OF TRAINING ASSISTANCE HERETOFORE, AND WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE OUR EFFORTS WERE WASTED. BY PROVIDING TRAINING WE HAVE UPGRADED THE CREDENTIALS OF VARIOUS PERSONNEL. THE AMOUNT OF THAT TRAINING THAT WAS LOST ON THE VARIOUS CANDIDATES WOULD PROBABLY BE THE SAME AS IN ANY OTHER POPULATION OF CANDIDATES. SO FAR AS THE BOATS ARE CONCERNED, MY OWN VIEW IS THAT ONCE NAG

HAD THEM, IT WOULD PROBABLY DEVELOP AN INTELLIGENCE NETWORK TO MAKE THE BOATS EFFECTIVE IN DRUG-INTERDICTION OPERATIONS. BUT IF WE WAIT FOR THE NAG TO DEVELOP THE NETWORK FIRST AS A PRECONDITION TO OUR PROVIDING THE BOATS, I WOULDN'T HOLD MY BREATH.

4. CHANCE IS NOT ONLY MINISTER OF JUSTICE, BUT ALSO VICE MINISTER PRESIDENT IN THE PRESENT COALITION. IT IS TRUE THAT HIS PARTY (THE PPA) IS IN TATTERS, BUT PARTIES DON'T COUNT FOR MUCH HERE; INDIVIDUALS DO. LAST AUTUMN CHANCE ON OCCASION ACTED IN A WAY TO SUGGEST THAT HE WAS LOSING HIS GRIP; AN AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN HERE WHOSE JUDGMENT I RESPECT THOUGHT THAT IN A CERTAIN MATTER CHANCE HAD ACTED "IRRATIONALLY." BUT NOW THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT IS IN PLACE AND FUNCTIONING ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS, CHANCE LOOKS TO BE WELL IN CHARGE AND A VIABLE POLITICIAN. IT HASN'T HURT HIM EITHER, OF COURSE, THAT HIS PRINCIPAL ARUBA OPPONENTS, THE MEP AND BETICO CROES, HAVE THEMSELVES BEEN BEHAVING RATHER FOOLISHLY. (FOR EXAMPLE, THEY EMBARRASSED VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT ANDRES PEREZ BY IN HIS PRESENCE REFUSING TO SHAKE THE HANDS OF GOVERNOR LEITO AND MINISTER PRESIDENT ROZENDAL AND BY SUGGESTING THAT ARUBANS COULDN'T "APPROVE" THE BOUNDARY TREATY BECAUSE THEY HAD NOT SEEN ITS TERMS. OF COURSE EXISTING COMSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES DO NOT PROVIDE FOR APPROVAL OF TREATIES BY THE SEVERAL INDIVIDUAL ISLANDS.) CHANCE IS A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF THE US. I HAVE PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED HIGH-LEVEL MEETING FOR HIM IN US AND STICK BY THAT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CURACA 00280 181842Z

RECOMMENDATION. SEE 77 CURACAO A-30.

5. ZAANDAM IS IMPORTANT TO US HERE IN OUR CONSULAR BUSINESS, BUT HE IS ABOUT AS IMPORTANT TO YOU THERE AS THE SHERIFF OF PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY. HE IS JADED ABOUT CHANCE; HE IS JADED ABOUT OLDENBOOM; AND HE IS JADED ABOUT REMAINING A POLICEMAN. OLDENBOOM PLAYS HIS OWN GAME AND IS NOT ENTIRELY TRUSTWORTHY. WE SHOULD CONTINUE AS WE ARE WITH HIM, SCRATCHING HIS BACK WHEN WE CAN, GETTING HELP IN RETURN AS WE NEED IT. WE SHOULD AVOID LETTING HIM THINK WE WOULD DEAL WITH HIM ON ANY HIGHER THAN THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND AGAINST ANY HIGH-LEVEL TREATMENT (AS OPPOSED TO TECHNICAL TRAINING) FOR EITHER ZAANDAM OR OLDENBOOM. TO OFFER IT WOULD ONLY RUFFLE OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHANCE AND EXACERBATE THE INTER-NECINE RIVALRIES OF WHICH ZAANDAM'S COMMENTS ON CHANCE ARE ONLY A REFLECTION. PENBERTHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CURACA00280
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780166-0297
Format: TEL
From: CURACAO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780450/aaaabqpa.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b2fd27ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 92956
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2950567
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NARCOTICS TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSISTANCE TO NAG
TAGS: SNAR, NA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b2fd27ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014